

SYNOPSIS MINUTES – MORRO BAY PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY BOARD  
 SPECIAL MEETING – NOVEMBER 4, 2013  
 VETERAN’S HALL – 6:00 P.M.

Chairperson Makowetski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:	Matt Makowetski	Chairperson
	Janith Goldman	Board Member
	Marlys McPherson	Board Member
	Deborah Owen	Board Member
ABSENT:	Ron Burkhart	Vice-Chairperson
	Richard Rutherford	Board Member
	Stephen Shively	Board Member
STAFF:	Rob Livick	Public Services Director
	Janeen Burlingame	Management Analyst

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER  
 MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
 ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Makowetski opened Public Comment period.

Linda Merrill, resident of Morro Bay, stated she and her neighbor support staff’s recommendation to restripe and improve the parking along San Jacinto Street.

Bill Martony, resident of Morro Bay, asked staff if the City has entered into negotiations with Dynegy for the easement along the dirt Embarcadero. Livick stated the City was waiting until the project design was finalized to determine whether additional easement would be necessary for the project. It has been determined that additional easement is necessary so the City will be working with Dynegy to secure the right of way. Makowetski asked staff about the associated costs for the easement. Livick stated it has yet to be determined, but there will likely be little or no cost to the City.

Chairperson Makowetski closed Public Comment period.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A-1 Approval of Minutes of August 29, 2013 Joint Meeting with Recreation & Parks  
 Recommendation: Approve minutes.

A-2 Approval of Minutes of August 29, 2013  
 Recommendation: Approve minutes.

- A-3 Approval of Minutes of September 5, 2013  
Recommendation: Approve minutes.
- A-4 Approval of Minutes of October 1, 2013  
Recommendation: Approve minutes.
- A-5 Report on North Coast Transit Surveys 2013 Project  
Recommendation: Receive the draft North Coast Transit Surveys 2013 Technical Memorandums 1 and 2 on Existing Conditions and Survey Results, and provide written comments to Staff as necessary by November 7, 2013.
- A-6 Director's Report/Information Items  
Recommendation: Receive and file.

Boardmember McPherson asked staff how the public was notified of the state water shutdown. Livick stated the City published a press release in the local newspaper, posted the information on the City's website, advertised it on Channel 20, and announced the shutdown at most public meetings.

Boardmember McPherson asked staff to clarify what percentage of the City's water comes from the state. Livick explained the state provides 35 percent of the overall allocation. Without the drought buffer, the City would receive 35 percent of 13,013 cubic feet of water (which is the City's total allocation of state water), and with the drought buffer, the City would receive 100 percent of water requested, (which is up to 36.5 percent). Livick stated the City also has water in storage at San Luis Reservoir.

MOTION: Boardmember Shively moved to approve the Consent Calendar.

The motion was seconded by Boardmember Burkhart and carried unanimously. (6-0).

#### OLD BUSINESS

None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- C-1 Morro Bay Transit Options for Weekend Service  
Recommendation: Consider options, and recommend the City Council expand Morro Bay Transit service on Saturday as outlined in the Staff Report commencing July 1, 2014.

Burlingame presented the staff report.

Chairperson Makowetski opened Public Comment period, and seeing none, closed Public Comment period.

Boardmember Burkhart asked staff if the penalties on the 10 percent fare that were discussed in the past are the same as those presented in the staff report. Burlingame explained the last time the farebox ratios were discussed with the Board, only Morro Bay Transit was examined. She then stated all City transit services are combined and the City exceeds the 10 percent fare ratio. In 2011-2012, the farebox ratio for the entire transit system was 10.7 percent. More recently, Morro Bay Transit alone has experienced a 2.5 percent farebox increase.

Boardmember Goldman confirmed with staff that during the trolley season, Morro Bay Transit and the trolleys would run on Saturdays. Burlingame explained each service serves two different populations: the trolley primarily serves tourists whereas Morro Bay Transit serves primarily locals. She explained the City has funding available for both services and one would not take funding away from the other.

Boardmember Shively confirmed with staff that Transportation Development Act (TDA) money comes from the state. Burlingame stated staff is confident that the City will receive the same amount of money that was received last year.

Boardmember McPherson asked staff what proportion the requested \$15,000 is of the total funding received. Burlingame explained that the total transit budget for existing programs and services is about \$350,000-\$357,000 after bike path, pedestrian, and regional transit authority funding is deducted. The requested \$15,000 is a small percentage of the total budget.

Chairperson Makowetski asked staff if the City is doing any sort of advertising for the Morro Bay Transit. Burlingame stated there is information on the City's website, Channel 20, and in the Bay News.

Chairperson Makowetski asked staff to clarify the difference in costs of Morro Bay Transit in the off-season versus the high season. Burlingame explained the difference in cost is because there are fewer hours of operation, so all costs are lower.

Chairperson Makowetski asked staff about the likelihood of increasing the farebox ratio if Option 5 is selected. Burlingame explained that it would be unlikely at this point unless the City Council voted to approve additional funding.

MOTION: Boardmember Shively moved to accept staff recommendations #1-4 as stated in the staff report dated October 29, 2013.

The motion was seconded by Boardmember Owen and carried unanimously. (6-0).

C-2 Public Draft Options Report for the NEW Water Reclamation Facility  
Recommendation: Receive Report, take public testimony, and forward any recommendations to the City Council.

Livick presented the staff report.

Chairperson Makowetski opened Public Comment period.

Bill Martony, resident of Morro Bay, expressed concern about the proposed cost of about \$90-160 million to build the new Water Reclamation Facility. He compared the proposed cost to the total the City of Oceanside spent on their new facility, which was about half as much. Martony stated he would like the City to consider the Tri W site as a potential location for the new facility.

Bob Keller, resident of Morro Bay, expressed support for exploring the Tri W site as well. He stated this site makes sense economically, it is situated close to the City, and there is sufficient space around the property to build ponds.

Chairperson Makowetski closed Public Comment period.

Livick explained the cost estimates for the new facility thus far have been conservative, as cost estimates usually tend to be at the beginning stages of most projects.

Boardmember Owen asked staff to clarify the location of the Tri W site. Livick explained the property extends from the Seashell Communities (to the southeast) to the Radcliffe neighborhood (to the northwest). Livick stated he would get clarification from John regarding how far he looked into the valley area.

Martony explained the Tri W site is comprised of approximately 160 acres inside the City limits and an additional 400 acres which are zoned agricultural and are located outside the City limits. The 400 acres are located behind the Seashell Community, in the valley, and were not included in the study.

Boardmember Burkhart asked staff if an environmental impact study has been conducted which indicates what the proposed development would do to property values in the area, and how it would affect hotels in the City. Livick stated such a report has not been conducted. He explained the purpose of the study is to compare the relative cost to build projects on different sites.

Boardmember Shively discussed with staff the following items:

1. He asked how many rate payers there are in Morro Bay. Livick confirmed there are about 5,600 rate payers.
2. He confirmed with staff the \$90 million alternative is at the site next to the power plant. The \$160 million alternative is at the California Men's Colony site.
3. He asked if the site next to the power plant is more protected from natural disasters than the existing site. Livick explained the site next to the power plant is at a higher elevation but has several other development issues.

Boardmember McPherson discussed with staff the following items:

1. McPherson suggested that for comparison purposes, the City should announce to the public only the cost of construction, which is a more accurate number to cite because it does not include contingency costs and other fees that are less certain.
2. She asked if in preparing the study, the City examined the feasibility of acquiring the sites. She stated such a discussion would be helpful.
3. McPherson asked staff if they have considered partnering with existing facilities in the Morro Valley.
4. McPherson confirmed with staff the cultural resources mentioned by staff earlier in the meeting do not include marine resources.

Livick clarified the existing facility in the Morro Valley is too small and would not meet the needs of the City, and thus it is not being considered as an alternative site for the water reclamation facility.

Chairperson Makowetski expressed concern that it may be difficult for the City to acquire the Dynege property for the development of the facility because other, less-impactful development proposals have been denied at that location. Livick stated the City has not yet entered into the property acquisition stage or met with property owners. The City is now only looking at the relative feasibility of development at the site. Staff will address this issue in more detail at the next meeting.

C-3 Review of San Jacinto Street Parking and Striping

Recommendation: Receive the options, take public testimony, and provide any recommendations or comments to Staff.

Livick presented the staff report.

Chairperson Makowetski opened Public Comment period.

Larry McKay, resident of Morro Bay, expressed concern about losing the on-street parking in front of his residence. He suggested only prohibiting parking in that area for certain periods of time during the day.

Boardmember Owen asked staff if handicap parking is required along San Jacinto Street. Livick explained it is not required, and he explained the difficulties associated with installing curbside handicap parking. He stated the City may be able to install pavement on the north side of the street, instead of on the south side, to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians. He stated there is a conflict, however, with an existing power pole which would need to be addressed.

Boardmember McPherson asked staff how many complaints have been received since the City made the initial improvements to the street. Livick stated he has not personally received any complaints but noted complaints tend to come through the City Council members. He stated there appear to be two main issues:

1. The City is proposing to remove parking in the area east of Birch Street in order to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians.
2. The City is proposing to widen the street between Alder and Birch Streets in order to accommodate parking and all lanes of traffic.

Boardmember McPherson stated it is not possible to accommodate all users; there must be trade-offs. She asked staff if it would be possible to wait a little longer before making the proposed changes in order to give the public more opportunity to respond to the proposal. Livick stated the City did notice the appropriate properties of the project to see if any members of the public wanted to comment on it. The notices did not result in any comments.

Boardmember Shively asked staff if this is the only property that fronts San Jacinto Street. Livick stated there may be one or two other properties that front this street but they also have tree street frontages. Shively suggested a strategy for how to avoid moving the power pole while still completing the minor paving job.

Chairperson Makowetski asked staff why handicap access will be installed at the corner of Birch and San Jacinto instead of the corner of Alder and San Jacinto. Livick stated the corner of Alder and San Jacinto was not selected for handicap access because that location cannot meet all ADA requirements.

Livick stated staff will report back to the Board before any improvements are made.

McKay asked staff how much it would cost to move the power pole at the intersection of Birch and San Jacinto. Livick stated it depends. Shively discussed the difficulties associated with moving the pole at this location. Livick stated this intersection will need additional work in the future, and the City will address that as a different project.

C-4 Formation of a PWAB Subcommittee for the preparation of a Request for Proposals and assistance in the selection of a Water and Sewer Rate Consultant  
Recommendation: Select two members to serve on the sub-committee.

Livick presented the staff report.

Boardmember Shively asked staff if it would be possible to separate water and sewer costs given the uncertain future of the wastewater treatment plant and the fact that the rate structure may change. Livick

stated the City is required to reassess the rate structure every five years. If the rate structure is modified now, in five years the wastewater treatment plant project will likely be in the design phase, in which case the City can re-examine the rate structure at that time.

Boardmember McPherson stated it would be helpful for the City Council to see how water and sewer rates have changed over the past 20 years. Livick stated, in the past 20 years, water rates have not increased. He noted there are increasing costs on the water side that the current rates cannot support.

McPherson noted sewer rates have increased over time for the purpose of funding the proposed remodel of the existing wastewater treatment plant. Livick clarified the proposed increase in sewer costs would accommodate existing operations. Livick explained the process for changing the water and sewer rate structures in the City.

Chairperson Makowetski noted a number of infrastructure projects have been completed with the money raised from sewer rates. He also noted the importance of letting the public know why the City is raising rates.

Chairperson Makowetski confirmed the City would like two Boardmembers to fill the positions for the PWAB subcommittee. Livick explained the roles and responsibilities of these positions. Boardmembers decided Goldman and Makowetski will fill the positions.

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm to the next scheduled meeting to be held at the Veteran's Memorial Hall on Thursday, December 19, 2013, at 6:00 p.m.